

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 have been examined. Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 1-13 and 19. Claim 19 has been amended to independent form including all base limitations. Claims 14-18 and 20 have been canceled.

As an initial matter, Applicants filed a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement on September 20, 2004. Applicants request that the Examiner send confirmation of the consideration of the references cited in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement with the next action.

Amendments to Specification/Drawings

Page 1 has been amended to correctly reference a related application serial number as this information was not available at time of filing. As such, no new matter has been added.

Pages 8-20, 23, and 24 as well as Figs. 2, 3A, 4A-4D, 5A, 10, and 11 have been amended to correct a combination of inadvertent typographical errors and to conform one part of the application to another. All amendments are supported by the originally filed disclosure. As such, no new matter has been added.

Substantive Rejections

Claims 14-16 and 20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,152,731 issued to Jordan et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,882,192 issued to Bergerson. Claim 17 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Jordan in view of Bergerson and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,980,905 issued to Meccariello. Claim 18 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Jordan in view of Bergerson and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,550,891 issued to Burbury et al.

In order to expedite prosecution of the present case, Applicants have canceled claims 14-18 and 20. Applicants reserve the right to pursue patent protection for these inventions in a subsequently filed application.

Appl. No. 09/560,424
Amdt. dated December 3, 2004
Reply to Office Action of September 10, 2004

PATENT

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nena Bains', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nena Bains
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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings includes changes to Figs. 2, 3A, 4A-4D, 5A, 10, and 11. These sheets replace the original sheets.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets
Annotated Sheets Showing Changes



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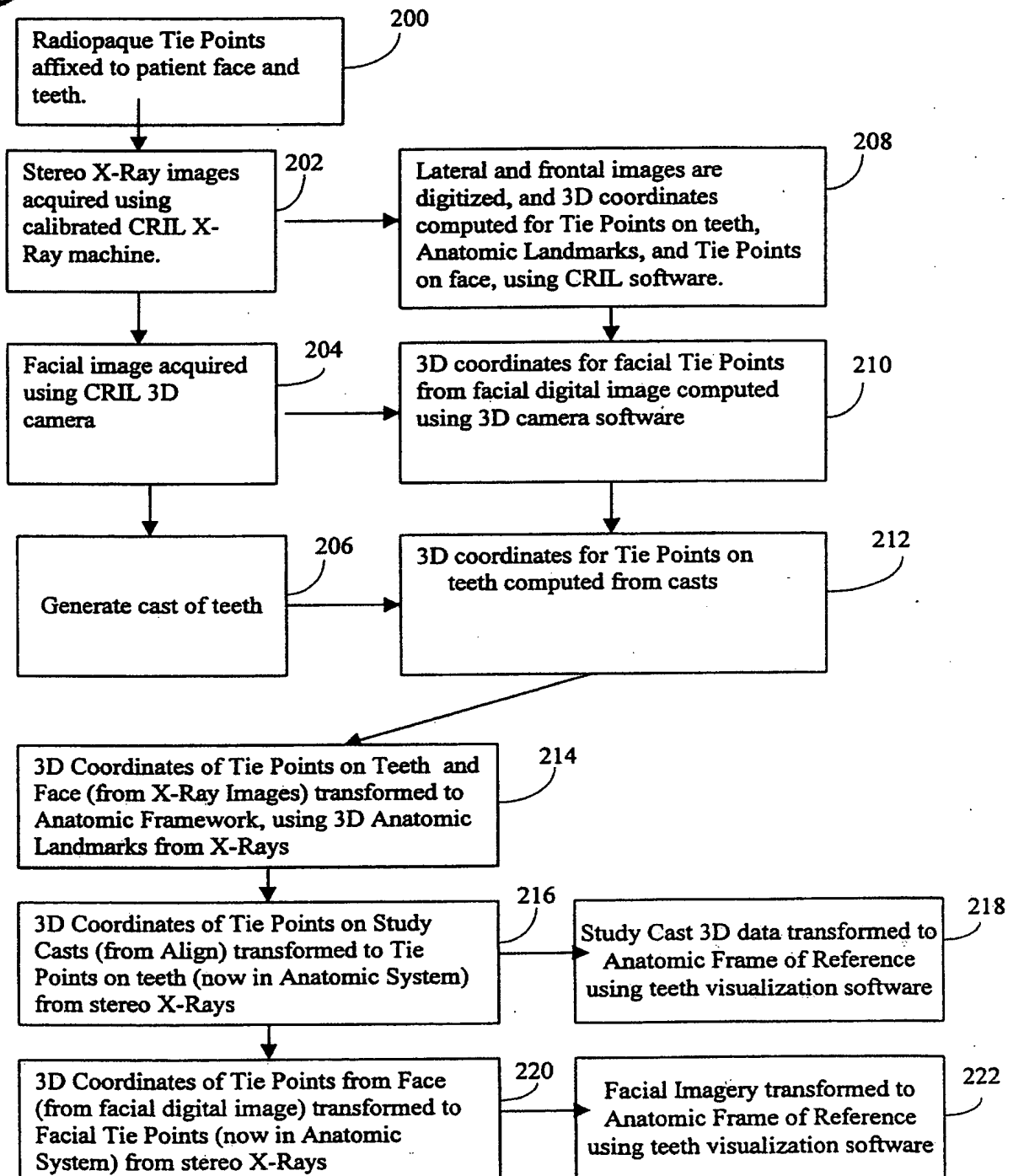


FIG. 2

SCHEMATIC OF X-RAY GEOMETRY

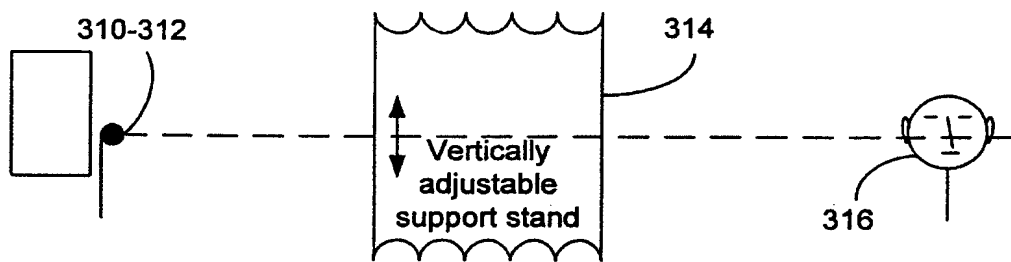
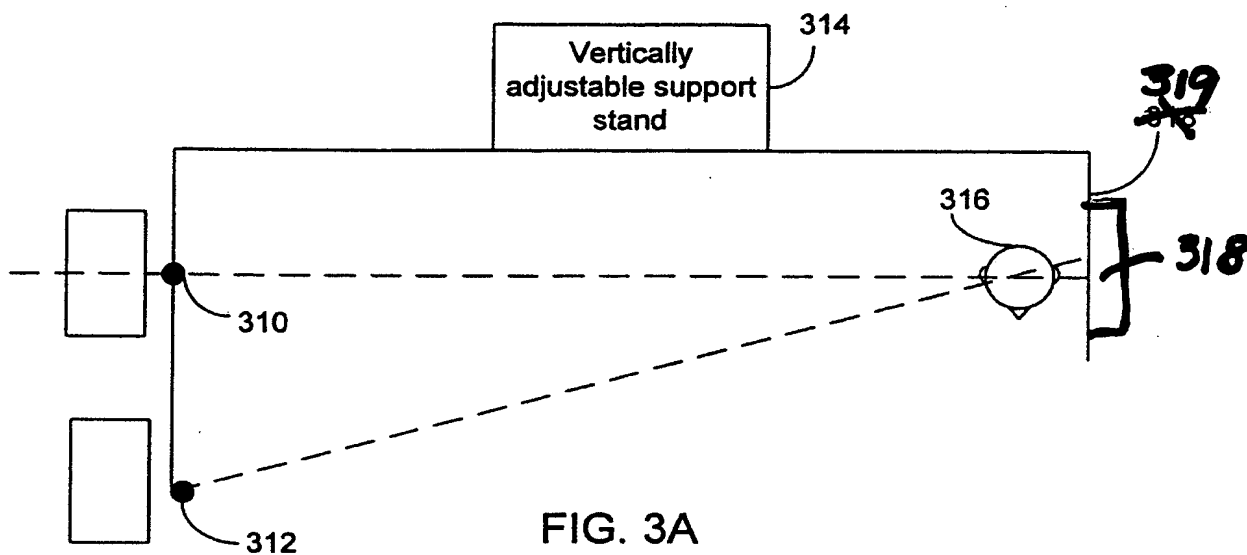


FIG. 3B

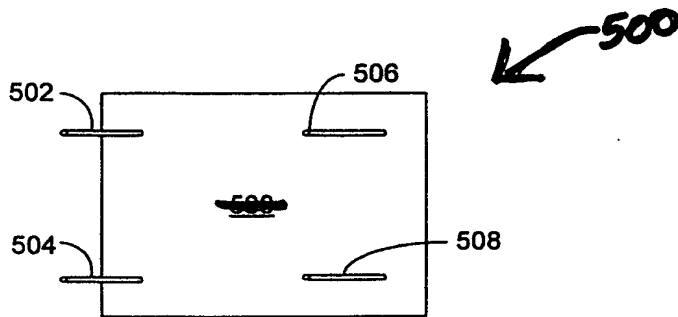


FIG. 4A

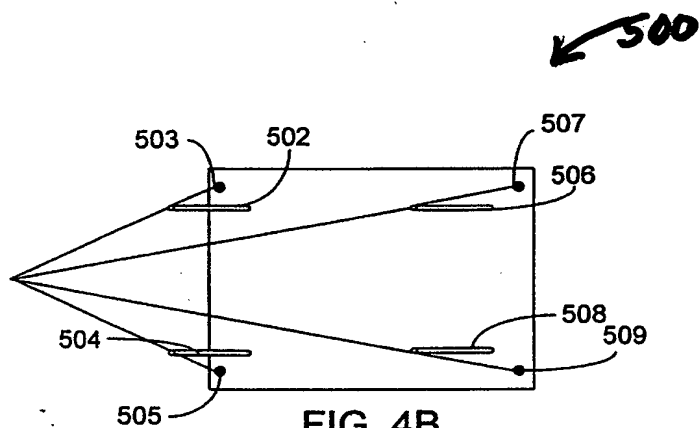


FIG. 4B

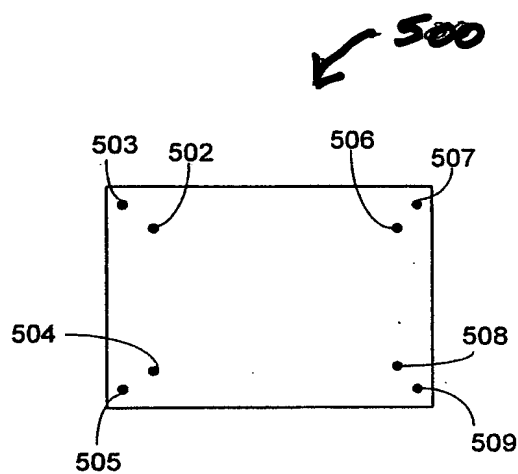


FIG. 4D

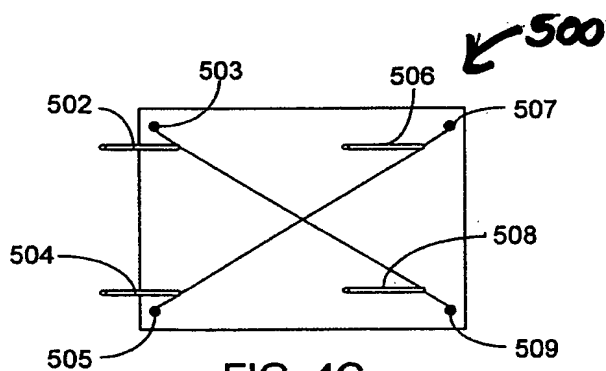


FIG. 4C

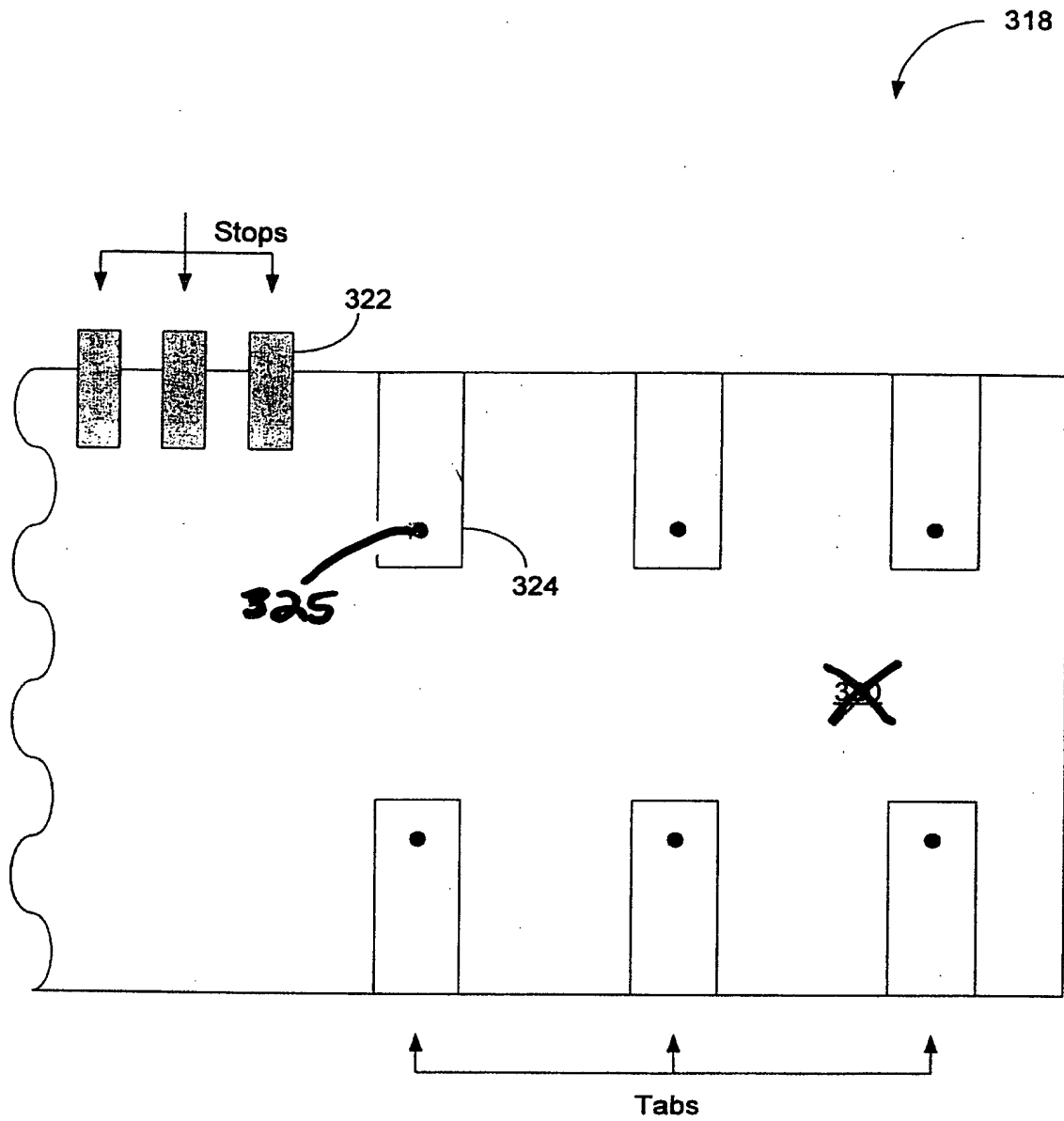


FIG. 5A

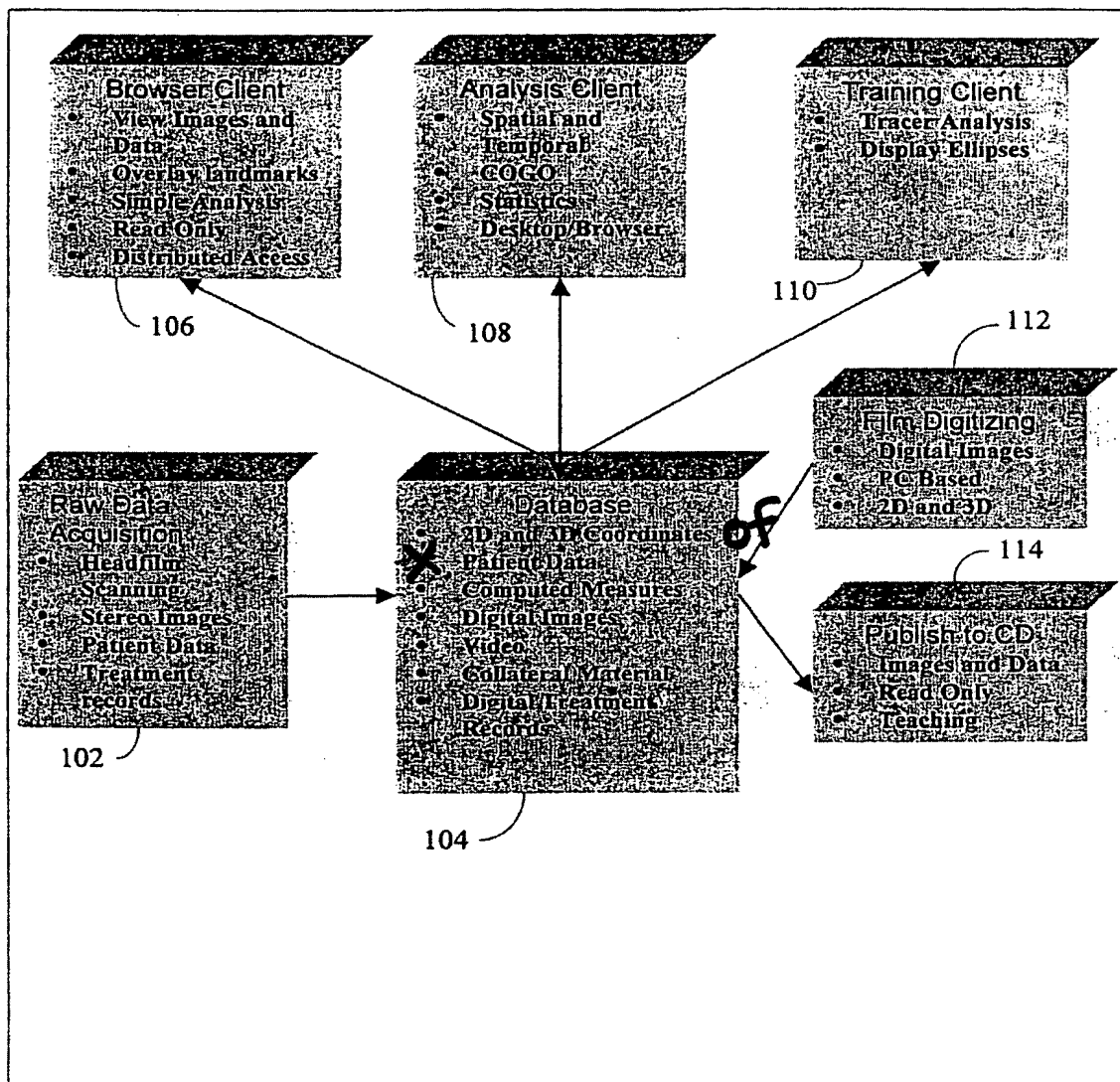


Fig. 10

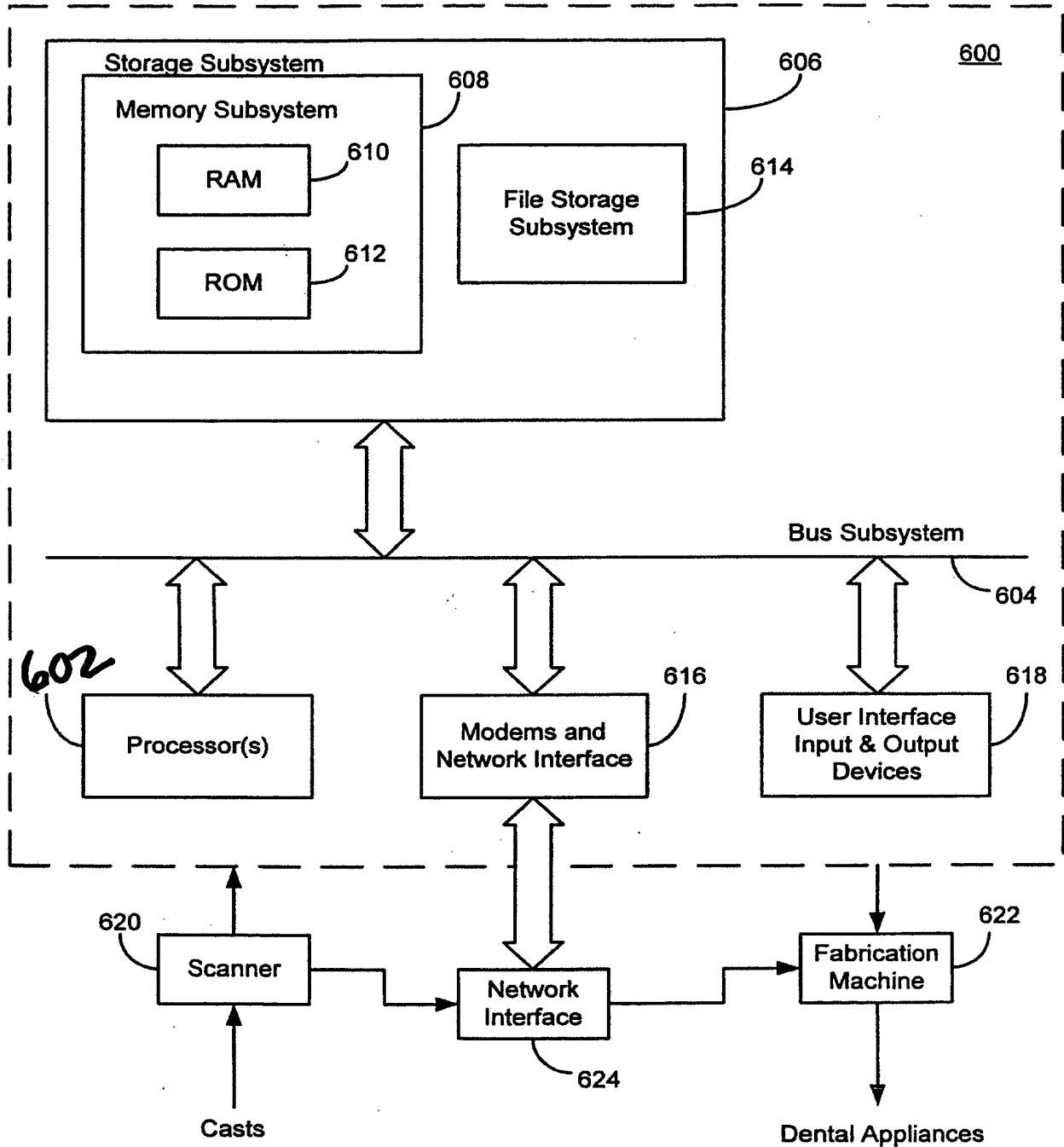


FIG. 11